



Kentucky Department of Corrections

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cortney Shewmaker Promoted to Director of Probation and Parole

FRANKFORT, Ky. (June 6, 2016) – Kentucky Department of Corrections Commissioner Rodney Ballard today announced the promotion of Cortney Shewmaker to Director of the Division of Probation and Parole. Her promotion was effective June 1.

“Cortney Shewmaker has shown great leadership as assistant director of Probation and Parole,” said Ballard. “She is truly an asset to the department and is a dedicated and valuable employee who is committed to helping the department carry out its mission.”

Shewmaker began her career working as a deputy jailer at the Boyle County Detention Center and then for the Administrative Office of the Courts. In 2005, she transferred to the Department of Corrections’ Division of Probation and Parole as an officer in District 14. While at District 14, she was a member of the Lincoln County Drug Court team. In 2007, Shewmaker was promoted to assistant district supervisor for the district. In 2011, she was promoted to deputy administrator for the Interstate Compact Office. The Interstate Compact Office controls the movement of probationers and parolees across state lines and provides for the appropriate supervision of these offenders.

Shewmaker was promoted in 2013 to Assistant Director of Probation and Parole, where she was responsible for operations within the division in the absence of the director. She also assisted the director in providing direction and guidance to supervisory staff. In 2016, Shewmaker was named interim director for the Division of Probation and Parole. The division employs 846 staff, including 575 sworn officers who currently supervise 45,800 offenders.

Shewmaker is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. She is also a graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program. Upon graduating, she served as a mentor and project coach for the program. Shewmaker is a member of the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD) and American Correctional Association (ACA). In 2009 she served on Probation and Parole's compliance team as the division worked toward re-accreditation with ACA. Shewmaker has also served as a trainer for the department's risk/needs assessment tool.

Editor’s note: photo attached

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